

In The Claims

Please rewrite Claim 1; cancel Claim 2 and add Claims 18-19 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An etching agent for etching copper in an etching process ~~comprising in~~ an aqueous solution ~~containing~~ consisting essentially of potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate and acetic acid, a concentration of said potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate falling within a range of 10.01% to about 23.31% by weight of the etching agent, said etching agent etching the copper at an approximately uniform rate throughout the etching process.

Claims 2-3 and 13-16 (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film comprising an aqueous solution containing potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate and hydrofluoric acid.

5. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a molybdenum film and a copper film comprising an aqueous solution containing potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate, phosphoric acid and nitric acid.

6. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a chromium film and a copper film comprising an aqueous solution containing potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate and hydrochloric acid.

7. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film comprising an aqueous solution containing a peroxomonosulfate salt, hydrofluoric acid, and hydrochloric acid or a chloride.

8. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film comprising an aqueous solution containing a peroxosulfate salt and a fluoride.

9. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film according to Claim 7, wherein said peroxosulfate salt comprises any one or more compounds selected from KHSO_5 , NaHSO_5 , $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$, $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$.

10. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film according to Claim 7, wherein said chloride comprises an alkali metal chloride or ammonium chloride.

11. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film according to Claim 8, wherein said peroxosulfate salt comprises any one or more compounds selected from KHSO_5 , NaHSO_5 , $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$, $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ and $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$.

12. (Withdrawn) An etching agent for a laminated film of a titanium film and a copper film according to Claim 8, wherein said fluoride comprises an alkali metal fluoride or ammonium fluoride.

17. (Previously presented) An etching agent according to claim 1, wherein said etching agent is capable of selectively etching the copper.

18. (New) An etching agent for etching copper in an etching process in an aqueous solution consisting essentially of potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate, a concentration of said potassium hydrogen peroxomonosulfate falling within a range of 10.01% to about 23.31% by weight of the etching agent, said etching agent etching the copper at an approximately uniform rate throughout the etching process.

19. (New) An etching agent according to claim 17, wherein said etching agent is capable of selectively etching the copper.